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Correspondence.

LIGHTNING RODS.

To the Editor of the New England Farmer,

SIR,—I am about putting up lightning rods to my buildings, and wish to be informed in what manner it is most safe and best to fasten them. Some of my neighbours pass the rod through a small ledge of wood, which is nailed fast to the building. Others make use of an iron staple with a piece of horn inserted into the ring, which receives the rod. I am informed the latter is the method generally adopted in the southern States. Is the horn a nonconductor? and is there no danger that the fluid may leave the rod and take the staple notwithstanding this piece of horn? How deep should the rod be inserted into the ground? and how far horizontally should it extend? There are a great many notions prevailing on this subject, and we farmers, who have neither time nor opportunity, to study into the matter, must depend on the opinion of gentlemen, who have made it their particular concern by study and observation to inform themselves correctly on the subject, such, no doubt are many of your correspondents and should they feel willing fully to express their sentiments and opinions through the medium of your most useful paper, it would be doing an essential benefit to the public. If lightning rods are of use to protect us against injury from this most powerful fluid, it is time they were placed upon the buildings—and the sooner it shall be ascertained in what manner we had best have them erected, the better it may be for us. Yours, &c.

AN OLD COLONY FARMER.

July 26, 1824.

REMARKS BY THE EDITOR. The subject of the above communication is of great importance, and we hasten to give such information respecting it as we can conveniently furnish. We indulge a hope, however, that some of our correspondents will resume it; and give us such further particulars and directions as may promote the best security against an agent, which, although one of the most powerful in nature may be easily guided and disarmed by art.

"Buildings that have their roofs covered with lead or other metal, and spouts of metal continued from the roof into the ground to carry off the water, are never hurt by lightning, as, whenever it falls on such a building, it passes in the metals and not in the walls.

"When other buildings happen to be within striking distance from such clouds, [as contain the electric fluid] the fluid passes in the walls whether of wood, brick, or stone, quitting the walls only when it can find better conductors near them, as metal rods, bolts, and hinges of windows or doors, gilding on wainscoat, or frames of pictures, the silvering on the backs of looking glasses, the wires for bells, and the bodies of animals, as containing watery fluids. And in passing through the house it follows the direction of these conductors taking as many in its way as can assist it in its passage, whether in a straight or crooked line, leaping from one to the other, if not far distant from each other, only rending the wall in the spaces where these partial good conductors are too distant from each other.

"An iron rod being placed on the outside of a building, from the highest part continued down into the moist earth, in any direction, straight or crooked, following the form of the roof or other parts of the building, will receive the lightning at its upper end, attracting it so as to prevent its striking any other part; and affording it a good conveyance to the earth, will prevent its damaging any part of the building.

"A small quantity of metal is found able to conduct a great quantity of this fluid. A wire no bigger, than a goose-quill has been known to conduct (with safety to the building so far as the wire was continued) a quantity of lightning that did prodigious damage both above and below it, and probably longer rods are not necessary, though it is common in America to make them of half an inch, some of them three quarters or an inch diameter.

"The rod may be fastened to the wall, chimney, &c. *with staples of iron.* The lightning will not leave the rod, (a good conductor) to pass into the wood (a bad conductor) through those staples.—It would rather, if any were in the wall, pass out of it into the rod to get more readily by that conductor into the earth.

"If the building be very large and extensive, two or more rods may be placed at different parts, for greater security.

"Small ragged parts of clouds, suspended in the air between the great body of clouds and the earth (like leaf gold in electrical experiments) often serve as partial conductors for the lightning, which proceeds from one of them to another, and by their help comes within the striking distance to the earth or a building. It therefore strikes through those conductors, a building that would otherwise be out of striking distance.

"Long sharp points communicating with the earth, and presented to such parts of clouds, drawing silently from them the fluid they are charged with, they are then attracted to the cloud, and may leave the distance so as to be beyond the reach of striking.

"It is therefore that we elevate the upper end of the rod six or eight feet above the highest part of the building, tapering it gradually to a fine point, which is gilt to prevent its rusting.

"Thus the pointed rod either prevents a stroke from the cloud, or if a stroke is made, conducts it to the earth with safety to the building.

"The lower end of the rod should enter the earth so deep as to go in a horizontal line six or eight feet from the wall, and then bent again downwards three or four feet, it will prevent damage to any stones of the foundation."—*Works of Dr. Franklin, vol. i. p.* 377, *Lon. edition of* 1816.

In the Memoirs of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Vol. ii. Part ii. page 99, is published a letter from Aaron Putnam, Esq. to the Rev. Jedidiah Morse, in which the writer observes "it appears to me a great mistake to place rods for conductors high in the air, above the object we wish to protect, for it is well known that no object will be so soon stricken as the conductor. We must have a strong propensity for emptying clouds, to run our conductor so high in the air as to empty the highest clouds that should pass, and thereby expose them to the striking distance, when nine out of ten would pass us, and not even come within attractive or emptying distance, provided our conductors were placed but a small height above the object we wish to protect. The only reason I conceive, that can be offered in favour of carrying conductors high in the air, is to meet and empty the cloud sooner; but this appears to me an inaccurate mode of reasoning; for if ever a conductor fails to afford protection, it is when a cloud, highly charged, approaches so rapidly upon the point that before there is time for it to be emptied, the point is brought within striking distance, and is then unable to carry off the quantity thrown upon it; therefore, if the point is placed high in the air, for the sake of attracting it, certainly it is in the same ratio exposed to be stricken. From the preceding observations, I conclude, that a point eighteen *inches* above the highest object we wish to protect would be much more safe than one of eighteen *feet*."

"An improvement in conductors of lightning was made by Mr. Robert Patterson, of Philadelphia, for which the American Philosophical Society adjudged him the prize of a gold medal. He proposes first to insert, in the top of the rod, a piece of the best *black-lead*, about two inches long, and terminating in a fine point, which projects a little above the end of its metallic socket; so that the black-lead point should be left sharp enough to answer the purpose of a metallic conductor. His second intention is, to facilitate the passage of the electric, fluid from the lower part of the rod into the surrounding earth. In many cases it is impracticable, from the interruption of rocks and other obstacles, to sink the rod so deeply as to reach moist earth, or any other substance that is a tolerably good conductor of electricity. To remedy this defect Mr. Patterson proposes to make the lower part of the rod, either of tin or copper, which metals are far less liable to corrosion or rust than iron, when lying under ground; or, which will answer the purpose still better, to coat that part of the conductor, of whatever metal it may consist, with a thick crust of black-lead previously formed into a paste by being pulverized, mixed with melted sulphur and applied to the rod while hot. By this precaution the lower part of the rod will, in his opinion last for ages, without any diminution.

"In order to increase the surface of the subterraneous part of the conductor, he directs a hole of sufficient extent to be dug as deep as convenient; into which a quantity of *charcoal* should be put, surrounding the lower extremity of the rod. Thus, the surface of that part of the conductor, which is in contact with the earth, may be increased with little trouble or expense; a circumstance of the first importance to security against those accidents, as charcoal is an excellent conductor of electricity, and will undergo little or no change of property, by lying in the ground a long series of years."—*Phil. Edi. of Willich's Domestic Encyclopedia, Art. Conductors.*

Mr. Cavallo observes that "a conductor to guard a building, as it is now commonly used in consequence of several considerations and experiments. Should consist of one iron rod, (copper would do much better, it being a more perfect conductor of electricity, and at the same time not being subject to contract rust so soon as iron,) about three quarters of an inch thick, fastened to the wall of a building *not by iron cramps but by wooden ones.* If the conductor were quite detached from the building, and supported by wooden

posts at the distance of one or two feet from the wall, it would be much better for common edifices, but it is more particularly advisable for powder-magazines, powder-mills, and all such buildings as contain combustibles ready to take fire. The upper end of the conductor should be terminated in a pyramidal form, with the edges, as well as the points very sharp: and if the conductor be of iron, it should be gilt or painted for the length of one or two feet. This sharp end should be elevated above the highest part of the building, (as above a stack of chimnies, to which it may be fastened) at least five or six feet. The lower end of the conductor should be driven five or six feet into the ground, and in a direction leading from the foundations; or it would be better to connect it with the nearest piece of water, if any at hand. If this conductor, on account of the difficulty of adapting it to the form of the building, cannot conveniently be made of one rod, then care should be taken, that where the pieces meet they be made to come in as perfect contact with one another as possible; for the electricity finds considerable obstruction where the conductor is interrupted.

For an edifice of a moderate size, one conductor, in the manner already described, is perhaps sufficient; but in order to secure a large building from sustaining any damage by lightning, there should be two, three, or more conductors, in proportion to the extent of the building.

"In ships a chain has often been used for the purpose, which, on account of its pliableness, has been found very convenient, and easy to be managed among the rigging of the vessel; but as the electricity finds a great obstruction in going through the several links, for which reason chains have actually been broken by the lightning, so their use has now been almost entirely laid aside; and in their stead copper wires a little thicker than a goose quill have been substituted, and have been found to answer very well. One of those wires should be elevated two or three feet above the highest mast in the vessel; this should be continued down the mast as far as the deck; where, by bending, it should be adapted to the surface of those parts, over which it may most conveniently be placed, and, by continuing it down the side of the vessel, it should always be made to communicate with the water of the sea.

Rees' Cyclopedia says, "a communicatcn should be made between the conductor, and all other pretty large pieces of metal in the building, such as leaden spouts, large iron clamps, &c.; for otherwise a lateral explosion may take place between those detached pieces of metal, at the time that the lightning is conveyed by the conductor, and thence the building may receive some damage, though not in a very great degree, unless indeed in the case of powder-mills, and powder-magazines."

A writer whose communication on this subject was republished from the Boston Recorder, in the N. England Farmer, Vol. II. page 77, says:

"The greatest deficiency I have noticed [in the construction of lightning rods] is in the want of a free communication with moist earth. When a rod is in all other respects perfect, and deficient in this, so far from being a safeguard, it only increases the danger it was intended to avert.

"I have known, and by good authority have heard of several buildings, having conductors, but which did hardly touch the earth, being damaged by lightning. Among the many is the meeting house in Reading, Mass. In the course of the present summer the lightning came down the rod, and went off near the bottom into, and damaged the house. This was undoubtedly, because, by reason of the rod not going into the ground, the electrical fluid could not pass off as fast as it was received, and the rod became overcharged.

"Lightning rods are generally made and put up by persons wholly unacquainted with the principles of electricity, and what is necessary to constitute a safe conductor.

"I shall, therefore, endeavor to give some directions for the information of those who are unacquainted with the subject, and who have not the means of information.

"The rod should be made of round, smooth iron, at least three quarters of an inch in diameter, and when it can conveniently be done, instead of linking, should be smoothly welded together; but when by reason of its length or otherwise it is inconvenient to weld the whole rod, let it be smoothly connected, by screwing the end of one part into the end of another. There should be five or more points, one in the centre, perpendicular, and the others oblique. They should be filed to a sharp, slender point, and tipped with silver. The points should be elevated at least five or six feet above the highest part of the building. The bottom of the rod should go into the earth six or seven feet, and terminate in a bed of two or three bushels of wet charcoal. The wet coal covered with earth will probably retain dampness longer than any other substance.

"A conductor constructed and put up agreeably to the above directions, will perfectly secure a building for twenty feet on every side. When a building is more than forty feet long, for perfect security, there should be two or more rods, calculating one rod for every forty feet."

These directions appear to us to be correct and judicious. The conductor may be considered as the channel which conveys the electric fluid from the cloud to the earth in most cases, tho' we are told that this fluid sometimes ascends from the earth to the clouds. In either case, the larger the rod or channel of electricity, and the fewer the obstructions in its course the more perfectly it answers its purpose of drawing off the excess of the fluid without a stroke or explosion. Some writers recommend tipping the points of lightning rods with platina or gilding them. Probably tipping them with silver will answer as good a purpose, as the principal object is to prevent rust, which in a great measure destroys the conducting power of the metal. We believe that there is not much danger of the lightning's leaving the conductor, and following the iron staples. But it will be somewhat more safe and probably as convenient "to pass the rod through a small ledge of wood, which is nailed fast to the building," or to "make use of a small iron staple with a piece of horn inserted into the ring, which receives the rod," as our correspondent says, is the practice of some of his neighbours. Though horn is not enumerated by writers, (so far as we have examined) among the electrics, or non-conductors of electricity, yet we know it to be a very slow conductor of heat, and imperfect conductors of heat are generally slow conductors or non-conductors of the electric fluid.

CANADA THISTLE.

To the Editor of the Massachusetts Spy,

SIR,—I observed a petition was presented to the Legislature requesting their aid to prevent the spread of the "Canada Thistle;" and I have heard many enquiring the most successful mode to exterminate them.—Four years since I had a few of those fast spreading thistles in two places in my pasture: they were then confined to a few feet in circumference. Having witnessed the rapid manner in which they spread over the land in Vermont, and in some parts ot this state, I felt desirous to destroy them immediately; I therefore caused them to be dug up with a hoe in the month of June with full expectation, that they would trouble me no more. The next year, there were more than twice the number, and occupied a much larger piece of ground. I then cut them with a scythe, as often as they grew sufficiently high to be cut—all this, apparently, served to increase their growth. The next year, they extended several rods, and I had every reason to believe, that in a few years, they would willingly occupy my whole pasture. Knowing that salt, or brine would destroy many kinds of vegetables, I cut them with a scythe at the commencement of a rain, and threw salt liberally over them, and my cattle and sheep kept the grass and thistles closely fed in consequence of the salt. I salted the ground a second time the same year, and they are entirely destroyed.—If those people, who find Canada Thistles in their lots, or by "the way side" will take the trouble to make this simple application, they may perhaps prevent the growth of the thistle, and supersede the necessity of a legislative act.

A FARMER.

GAPES IN CHICKENS,

Occasioned by double headed worms, which accompany this communication, together with a brazen wire screw, with which they are easily extracted.

Synapuxent, 16th June, 1824.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AMERICAN FARMER.

DEAR SIR.—The enclosed papers will apprise you that your inquiry, when I last had the pleasure of seeing you, was not correctly understood. I shall be pleased to hear from you when additional light shall have been thrown upon the subject to which they relate.

Willing at all times to minister to that laudable thirst for information which characterises you, I herewith forward a *double headed* portion of the vermicular family, together with the instrument with which they were taken from the wind pipes of four chickens in great distress with the *gapes*. The ingenious neighbour who invented the instrument, was kind enough, after he had operated upon our chickens, to give it to me, exactly as I now enclose it for your inspection. I declare to you that I have seldom been more surprised, than at the facility with which this brazen screw was introduced into the wind pipe—the struggles of the subject ceasing as soon as its point had fairly passed the chink, (rima glottidis if you prefer it,) the almost undisturbed respiration, whilst it was suffered to remain projecting from the mouth for a minute, without other support than that which the walls of the tube itself afforded—and the astonishing organization of the worms taken out. You will perceive at first view that many of these monsters have two fimbriated, and all a pointed extremity. The gentleman who extracted them assured me that "those which appear without the *small head* must have been mutilated, as he had seen none

in all his previous operations without it." It is by these fimbriated black like extremities, that their sustenance is obtained. Committed to a small portion of limpid water they manifested all the signs of life, and occasionally threw out from the pointed extremity portions of the blood with which they were turgid.

I should say a word or two of the modus operandi, but really fear that this, written in great haste will be too late for the mail. If you wish me to say more on this subject, please to ask for such information as you desire.

From the Massachusetts Yeoman.

EXHIBITION OF MANUFACTURES.

The Franklin Institute of Pennsylvania have given notice to the Manufacturers, Mechanics, Artists, &c. of the United states, that their first exhibition will be held in Philadelphia, on the 18th, 19th, and 20th of October next, to which they invite "all who reside in the Union to send the productions of their industry and ingenuity." They also offer premiums for particular articles of manufacture; and among others, the following:—

To the maker of the best Cast Steel, who has manufactured the same in any state of the Union,—a specimen of at least 10 lbs. in bars of one half inch square or smaller. The quality of steel and neatness of the bars will be considered in estimating its merit—*A silver medal.*

To the manufacturer of the best specimen of Cast-Iron Pipes made in the United States.—The pipes not to be less than 100 feet of one inch calibre, in joints of at least four feet long, joined by screwing into each other, or united as effectually by some other mode—*A silver medal*

To the person who shall manufacture the best Crucibles of earthen ware, or other cheap material, suitable for Brass Founders. The crucibles must be made to endure as high a heat as those made of black lead, and to stand at least seven heats in a brass founder's furnace. The crucibles to be capable of holding at least 40 lbs. of metal; one dozen of crucibles to be exhibited—*A silver medal.*

To the maker of the best Smith's Anvil, steel faced, not weighing less than 70 lbs.—*A silver medal.*

To the manufacturer of the best piece of Broad Cloth; not less than five yards to be exhibited—*A silver medal.*

To the manufacturer of the best piece of Satinet—*A silver medal.*

To the manufacturer of the best pair of Cotton Blankets—*A silver medal.*

To the manufacturer of the best piece of Negro Cloth, not less than a hundred yards—the quality and price will be taken into consideration—*A silver medal.*

To the inventor of the best Machines for making Wrought Nails—*A silver medal.*

To the author of the best Treatise, (whether in manuscript or printed,) on the construction of Water Wheels. In appreciating the merits of this work, regard will be had to procuring the greatest effect with the water employed. It is important also that the style should be intelligible to common workmen—*A silver medal.*

Premiums will also be awarded for articles not specified, "which are remarkable for novelty in the invention, or perfection in the workmanship."

The name and place of residence of the maker of or manufacturer must be affixed to the article. Samples will be received of such articles as from their bulk or nature cannot be conveniently removed.——Persons desirous of obtaining further information on the subject can address *David H. Mason*, No. 33, South Fourth Street, Philadelphia, who is one of the Curators of the Institute.

From the London Farmer's Journal.

ON THE PRESERVATION OF HARNESS.

Sir,—Allow me to recommend the following method of preserving leather harness and traces, engine hose, boots and shoes, cording, sheep nets, cart covers, stack cloths, &c., in the most effectual manner, to the attention of your agricultural readers, as an invaluable acquisition. Take of neats' foot oil one quart; bees wax, cut small, one ounce; oil of tar, [spirits of turpentine] half a pound by weight; and after simmering the neats' oil a little in a pipkin, the oil of tar must be added, when, after a gentle simmering again for a few minutes, stirring it the whole time with a stick, the mixture will be finished; at the same time, if an ounce of naptha be comeatable, and the purpose for which it is to be used should render the expense no object, the composition will, by the addition thereof, receive considerable improvement. It is used precisely as oil would be applied; and where it may be required to *soften* old and hardened leather, a washing or sponging with hot water first is advisable, and the liquid should be driven in before the fire.

Leather or cordage dressed with this liquid never rots, hardens, grows mouldy, or perishes with blacking: it is likewise a complete destroyer of scabbiness in sheep and other animals. I gave the form, about seven years back, to a person who made a benefit of its sale in town, and afterwards, contrary to a pledge given me, sold the same to two people who now retail a very inferior composition.

As to the expense, one application of this fluid is superior to four or five of oil.

Where the rendering leather water-proof is desirable, the ounce of naptha proposed to be added, should have a drachm of India rubber dissolved in it; for it should be remembered that those things which give suppleness to leather, open its pores; whereas, to make it water-proof, the closing them up by astringent applications, or filling them up by waxy or gummy ones, is indispensable. It is perhaps right to add, naptha is highly inflammable, and therefore should be kept from the fire and candle, and added "*after the mixture is taken from the fire.*"

I am, Sir, your very obed't serv't,
W. M. DINSDALE.

June 1, 1821.

HARD WATER FOR IRRIGATION.

In Parkes' Chemical Essays, page 9, it is asserted that "according to Dr. Home, hard water promotes the growth of plants in a much greater degree than soft water." Sir John Sinclair says, "In regard to waters much impregnated with iron, they were formerly supposed totally unfit for the purposes of irrigation; but it is now fully proved, by the accurate experiments of an able chemist, and by the extraordinary growth of grasses in Prisley meadow in Bedfordshire, that ferruginous waters are friendly to vegetation, when properly applied." We believe that many if not the greater part of what we call *hard* waters in this country are rendered hard by sulphate of lime, [gypsum] and are the more fit for irrigation from the very circumstance which causes them to be improper for bleaching, the use of the dyer and most culinary purposes.

PURIFYING OIL.

The property which tan has of combining with gelatine, and therewith forming an insoluble precipitate, may be applied to the important purpose of purifying rancid fish oil. I knew a gentleman who fitted a very complete apparatus with this intention; and by agitating the oil with the tannin and water in a large vessel, to which he gave a rotary motion, the tannin became intimately combined with the gelatinous impurities, and then completely subsided. By this means the oil, which was fit only for burning in the street lamps, was rendered free from smell nearly equal to the best spermaceti oil, and fit for burning in the closest chambers.

[*Parkes' Chemical Essays.*

La Fayette.—Mr. Persico an accomplished artist of this city, has just completed in clay a colossal bust of General La Fayette. Gentlemen who have seen the original pronounce it to be an admirable likeness. We can only bear testimony to the excellence of the workmanship. The countenance is strongly marked, and extremely interesting. Mr. Persico intends soon to finish the cast in plaster; but would previously be happy to have connoisseurs in the art call at his rooms, No. 19, Murray-street, to examine the bust, and suggest any alterations.—*N. Y. Statesman.*

Inland Trade.—The Rochester Telegraph contains a respectable marine list, announcing arrivals and departures at that port (on Genessee river) of a number of steam boats, from and to Presque Isle, Sackett's Harbour, Ogdensburg, Lewiston, Niagara, Cape Vincent, Port Hope, and other places in the lake country, of too recent designation to be found on any map, with produce and merchandise of various kinds.—*ib.*

Knowledge is Power.—"It is an excellent opinion of the writer who obtained a prize from the Economical Society of Berne, for an Essay on the best means of instructing the public, that 'a labourer executes easily and exactly all his works in proportion to his knowledge.'" [*Parkes' Chemical Essays.*

Mistakes in Science.—"A person who means to serve the cause of science effectually, must often hazard his own reputation so far as to risk mistakes in things of small moment."

[*Dr. Priestly.*

No Man is too old or too well informed to learn.—Cardinal Farnese one day found Michael Angelo, when an old man, walking alone in the Colliseum, and expressed his surprise at finding him solitary amidst the ruins; to which he replied, "I go yet to school that I may continue to learn."

From the Mass. Agricultural Repository for June, 1824.

Some further notice of some of the valuable varieties of new Pears sent last year by Mr. Knight to Mr. Lowell.

We would commence by saying, that all the original trees are alive, and in good order, except the Hardenpont de Printems, (by the French Gardeners called, Buerre Rance)—There are also living about eighty grafts from them, and a great number of buds. Mr. Lowell will cheerfully furnish buds of all the varieties, as soon as they are fit, during the present season. It must occur to every one that as the trees are small he cannot answer all the demands of the public, but regardless of the speedy growth of the trees, he will give all that can be spared without injury to them.

Of the Buerre Rance, or Hardenpont de Printems there are many grafts growing in the gardens of several gentlemen in the vicinity, for the grafts from the trees survived though the parent stock died, a case not uncommon.

Of No. V. in the catalogue of Mr. Knight's pears as printed in the Massachusetts Agricultural Repository of June 1823, the following description is given in the Transactions of the London Horticultural Society accompanied with a beautiful coloured plate of the Pear, exhibiting its form and natural size and colours.—See part IV. Vol. 4 of these Transactions.

Extract from the Journals of the London Society.

"Specimens of the Marie Louise Pear were received from Roger Wilbraham, Esq. the produce of a tree in his garden at Twickenham, trained to a south wall which is however much shaded with trees. This pear which has already been noticed in the Society's Transactions, Vol. II. page 406 and Vol. III. page 120, has far exceeded any expectations which had been formed of it. Its general form is like that of St. Germain, but tapering less towards the stalk. The skin is of a greenish yellow, deepening where exposed to the sun, or when full ripe to a rich yellow, clouded with light brown russet—flesh inclining to yellow—perfectly melting, with abundance of sweet juice. The annexed figure will convey a very perfect idea of this excellent and beautiful pear. In favourable situations, however, it attains to a much larger size, being sometimes five inches long, and three inches wide and weighing eight ounces. Its period of maturity is from the middle of October to the middle of November. Those received from Mr. Wilbraham having ripened one year, 17th of October, and some which were received of Mr. Knight, not till the 15th of November, but these last were produced in the climate of Dounton [Mr. Knight's seat in Shropshire in the northern part of Wales] which is very inferior to that of Middlesex (near London.) This is one of the numerous seedlings which have been raised within a few years in the Netherlands. The first specimens came from Dr. Van Mons when he resided at Brussels—and grafts and plants were obtained from his garden there, and subsequently from the Count Coloma at Mecklin. It is said to have been raised by the Abbe Duquesne, together with the Napoleon pear already described in the Transactions, page 215 of this volume."

Thus it will be perceived, that in this fruit we have obtained a most valuable addition to our innocent luxuries.

We shall now add the short account given in the same Transactions of the *Napoleon Pear*, and perhaps the name will give it some interest and popularity with some persons. It may make it, if it shall prove a good fruit, a little more marketable, and therefore more profitable to our friends, who raise fruit for sale.

"Roger Wilbraham, Esq. sent a fine specimen of the Napoleon Pear, the produce of a graft received by the Society from Dr. Van Mons of Brussels, The form is pyramidal, but irregular, something like the Colmar. The skin is green, becoming pale yellow when fully ripe—flesh white, a little inclined to pale dull yellow, of pleasant consistence, melting and juicy, of *excellent* flavour, and much sweetness. The core is small, almost free from grit, and the seeds which are small are inserted near the head. This Pear is interesting as being the first of the new Flemish varieties produced in this country with an authenticated name. [We presume this does not apply to the circumstance of its bearing the name of the most extraordinary man of the age, but that it was the first of the varieties which was received from an authentic source.] So *much confusion* existed in the manner in which both the specimens and grafts were sent over by Dr. Van Mons that it will be a work of considerable attention to affix the original names to the produce of the trees now abundant in the gardens of the members of this Society, who have attended to the growth of *these valuable* fruits, which the *industry of the Flemish gardeners* have recently acquired."

It will be seen by this extract, that the Napoleon Pear is also excellent. They have omitted in this account, the season of its ripening, but Mr. Knight in his letter to Mr. Lowell published last year, states it to be November and December, which much enhances its value.

When we consider the high state of Horticulture in England and the just pride in it—and the natural jealousy they would feel in having their near neighbours across the channel surpass them in producing new and excellent fruits, we have abundant reason to believe that those new Flemish varieties raised from seed are highly valuable.

The concluding remark in the notice of this Pear as to the *confusion* of *names* of *different fruits* induces us *once more* to beg cultivators to be more attentive to this subject, and to strive as far as possible to give the correct names, the *authorized, admitted* names to every fruit tree they possess. It is a matter of far greater moment than gentlemen are aware of. One man finds he has a fine fruit. He calls it a Virgoulouse, when in truth it is a Colmar. He recommends it to his friend as a Virgoulouse. His friend not having *that* pear, takes grafts from it, and waits five years for its fruit, when to his great mortification, and severe and irreparable loss, he finds it to be nothing but a fruit of which he had *too much* before, under the true and correct name of Colmar. Disappointed and vexed, he has no resource, but to graft the tree anew, and perhaps a second excellent and obliging friend has unwittingly deceived him a second time. It is a very serious evil in Horticulture, and demands the most strict attention. We shall never make the advances we might make in this branch while we are so careless about names. It is not indeed difficult, even for unlearned persons, to ascertain *the facts*. Let them never graft, till they have seen *the fruit*, and submitted it to those who are judges; or, at least, let them not take their scions, except from well informed cultivators.

Seckle Pear.

It may be interesting to some of our readers to know what the best cultivators in Europe think of the best, if not the only superior pear produced in America. It is admitted, we believe, by the French and English gardeners, that the Seckle pear is *new* to them. We know that General Moreau pronounced it to be new to the French. They consider it an American production. That we have had no more new varieties is undoubtedly owing to our inattention to the subject. Even this justly celebrated Pear was not the produce of care but of accident. We have been informed that Mr. Johonnot, of Salem, has attempted with laudable industry and enterprize, to raise new varieties of the Pear from the seed; and that he has succeeded in producing one excellent variety. Cultivators ought not to be discouraged because so few are found to reward their labour. Dr. Van Mons of Brussels raised *eight hundred* new varieties, of which only *thirty* were deemed worthy of cultivation. But the labour is by no means lost; the stocks are highly valuable, and may be grafted with better fruits. In this vicinity, we have learned that fruit trees are the most valuable products of the soil, and we know instances where an acre filled with good trees in a bearing state would sell, and has been sold, for 500 dollars, when the same land stripped of the trees, would not sell for 150 dollars.

Transactions of the London Horticultural Society.

"John Braddish, Esq. sent specimens of the Seckle Pear, the produce of Espalier trees in his garden. The fruit has already been described in the Transactions of the society from a drawing made in America and received from Mr. Coxe of New-Jersey. It is gratifying to find that the present specimens, *though larger*, closely resemble the figure published with the account, and fully justify the *high character* given of the Pear by Dr. Hosack (of N. York) in the paper alluded to. In shape it resembles the Swan's egg, but is a little longer. Skin of a greenish olive colour, often with much dull or bronzed red on the side exposed to the sun—flesh yellow, very fine in texture, melting, juicy and sweet, with a delicate and very *powerful bergamot perfume*. It is in this *perfume* that the *Seckle* Pear *differs from all others*, and which has caused it to be so highly extolled in America.

"The Society having received by the kindness of Dr. Hosack, a number of plants of the Seckle pear in 1819, distributed them to the nurserymen around London. It is therefore expected that young plants for sale are by this time plenty."

So far say the English horticulturists. *We add*, that it is by such interchanges of blessings peculiar to each country, that the enjoyments of all are increased, and we know of nothing more delightful than such an intercourse. It atones in some small degree for the evils which the ambition and ill passions of men inflict on each other. We take this occasion to say to

our country friends who have not been familiar with this excellent American pear, that it is worthy of their attention. It is hardy—a great bearer—ripens at a time when they are destitute of fruit. It bears very young—very constantly; and would if no other fruit could be obtained, of itself furnish a delightful desert. Nothing can surpass its exquisite flavour. The writer of this article will be happy to furnish grafts in the month of March, or buds in July, to any agricultural gentlemen, if they will send to his place in Roxbury.

We shall take some notice of another new pear, because it has been introduced by one of the Trustees of this Society, and a most distinguished cultivator of fruits, S. G. Perkins, Esq. It was received from the garden of the London Horticultural Society.

The Charles d'Autriche Pear.

It was probably so named from the celebrated Archduke of Austria, who was the most successful combatant of Napoleon, before Wellington arose to eclipse him, or at least to diminish his lustre.

"This is a large variety three inches and a half long and three inches wide. It is one of the *new* varieties sent by Dr. Van Mons. Skin greenish yellow, profusely sprinkled with brown spots and partially russetted. Flesh melting, white, very juicy, with a rich high flavour, but with little if any perfume—a *beautiful* and *fine* fruit. Ripens about the middle of November."

We hope we shall be pardoned for devoting so much of our journal to fine fruits.

ON SUMMER FALLOWS, AND FALLOW CROPS.

[By J. Buel of Albany.]

In the best improved districts of Great Britain, France, and America, summer fallows have been pretty much abandoned. It has been found that,

1. They occasion the loss of one crop.

2. That they impoverish the soil, by exposing it to the influence of a scorching midsummer's sun.

3. That they increase the expense of tillage. And,

4. That they waste the vegetable and fertilizing matter of the sod, which, by the cross ploughings, is exposed to the exhausting influence of the sun and winds.

Darwin says, that "though a summer fallow may be an advantage to a poor soil which has nothing to lose, yet it must be injurious to a rich one which has nothing to gain." It is only advocated, by late writers, as a means of destroying weeds; and this can be done full as well by crops which require to be hand-hoed, particularly maize, the properties of which, as a cleansing crop, are unknown in English husbandry.

For *Summer Fallows*, substitute *Fallow Crops*. These may be *maize*, *potatoes*, *beans*, *peas*, or *oats*. Or, if the ground is a clover ley, it requires neither fallow nor fallow crop. Plough in August or early in September, and sow wheat upon the sod, harrowing well in the direction of the furrow. I will speak of the fallow crops separately.

1. *Indian Corn.* If the soil is stiff, or the sward stubborn, plough late in the fall, and harrow in the spring before you plant. If a sand or light loam, leave the grass to grow till near planting time. In either case the roller may be used to advantage. It compresses the sod, smothers the growth of grass, and prevents the escape of the gasses evolved in the fermentation of the vegetable matter buried by the plough. If you have manure to spare, (and you can use it no where to better advantage than with this crop,) spread it on the sod and plough it under. Plant your corn in hills. The distance will depend on the kind of seed, and strength of the ground. I plant at three feet each way. Harrow at the first dressing, the more the better, provided you do not disturb the sod; and plough shallow and earth slightly at the second. But exterminate all weeds. By leaving the sod unbroken, the roots of the grain have a better supply of moisture and nutriment beneath it. The process of decomposition is at its height in August, when the young ears are putting forth, and the grain filling. Harvest your corn by cutting it up, stocks and all, close to the surface, as soon as the ears are thoroughly glazed or seared; bind it in bundles, and stack it in small stacks off the ground. Proceed immediately to plough, and sow your wheat or rye, which in almost every case can be done in the month of September. The nutriment in the stocks will ripen your corn, while by cutting thus early, you improve the quality, and double the quantity of cattle food. An extensive and intelligent farmer, Mr. P. R. Livingston, informs me, that he values the fodder thus secured, a full compensation for all the labour of cultivating the crop, leaving the grain a clear profit. I split the hills, harrow, plough, sow the seed, and harrow it in both ways. On light soils, it may be preferable to plough in the seed. I raise an early and very prolific corn, which is invariably ripe enough to cut the first ten days in September.

I am satisfied, from several year's experience, that other things being alike, the clover sod, ploughed under in May, will give a material increase of corn, over land which has no sod, I think 20 per cent. on an average, and the crop is much less liable to be injured by drought. The planting should be as early as the season and soil will admit.

Failures, and great inconvenience and loss often result from the seed not vegetating, from its destruction by the wire worm and grub, and from the depredations committed upon the young plants by birds and squirrels. As I have never suffered in either of these respects, I will state my method of preparing the seed. I collect, in the first place, a quantity of the roots of the black hellebore, or itch weed, which abounds in swamps, grows with and resembles in its habits, skunk's cabbage, except that the leaves are narrower, longer, and grow upon the seed stock: these I boil till I obtain a strong decoction. I then take out the roots, and add to the liquor salt petre in the proportion of four ounces to three gallons, and put in my seed corn while the liquor is yet warm. Thirty-six hours is the longest period it should be suffered to steep, as the nitre may destroy the vegetating principle of the grain. As a further precaution, the liquor is again warmed, and a gill of tar stirred in, and the seed again immersed in it anew. Thus prepared I have not lost twenty hills in four years. The germinating process commences before the corn is planted, and unless the ground is too wet to grow this crop, (and it never pays the expense of culture, on soils that abound in springs, or that are naturally wet and cold,) it will continue to progress. The hellebore is poisonous, and though the ground may partially extract the poison, neither birds nor squirrels will ever disturb a dozen hills. The tar impregnates the seed, and protects it from the worms. The nitre and plaster, with which latter the seed is mixed before planting, combine their fertilizing properties to give vigour and strength to the young plants.

A gentleman in Madison county, who is said to have raised the greatest crop of corn ever growed in this state, ascribes his success principally to the circumstance of his having put four bushels of seed on an acre, instead of six quarts, the usual quantity; and pulling up all but the requisite number of most thrifty plants at the first dressing of the crop; and that no stalk produced less than three ears. I do not know that the facts have been correctly stated to me; but I confess they appear to be rational. We scarcely ever notice a hill of corn, without observing a spear more vigorous than the rest, which maintains its ascendency, and is always most prolific in its return. On the contrary those plants which are pale and sickly when young, seldom produce much under the best care. My experience warrants me in the belief, that seed taken from a stock which has produced two or three ears, is more prolific than seed from a stock which has produced but one ear.

2. *Potatoes*, if intended as a fallow crop, should be planted early. If on sward, hills are more convenient than drills. The dung should be unrotted, and spread previous to ploughing. If dunged in the hill, the manure is apt to generate too much heat, to encourage a too luxuriant growth of tops, to protract the ripening of the crop, and to render it watery and ill flavoured. It is a mistaken notion that the best potatoes grow in a warm dry soil. Ireland and Nova Scotia produce the best in the world. The climate in both is comparatively, cold and very damp. I have planted them on a clover ley, by dropping the seed six inches apart, in every fourth furrow, long manure being first drawn off the land with a rake into the furrow. The ground was afterwards rolled—and harrowed as the plants were breaking ground. One ploughing and a slight earthing with the hoe completed the process of cultivation. The produce was more than 400 bushels per acre. Land ploughed deep the preceding fall, would, I have no doubt, under this plan of culture, with manure produce a larger crop. Potatoes, generally, may be dug between the 15th and 30th September; and the ground is quickly prepared for crop; which should not be put in after the first week in October. I have procured a kind which are not only of good quality for the table, but which come to maturity in eight to ten weeks from planting. These promise to be valuable for a fallow crop. A practice has been recommended to me, to prevent the deterioration of this crop, a misfortune which seems to follow planting, successively, seed raised upon the same farm. Two years' experience has tended to satisfy me of its utility. The recommendation is, to select seed of good size, to cut off and throw away a slice from the seed

end, and to cut the residue into two, three, or four pieces according to the remaining number of eyes. Its utility is based upon the supposition, and I may say the fact, that where several stocks grow close together, the vegetable will be of a diminutive size; and that the discarded slice, which has from three to six eyes, may be correctly compared to the tips and butts of an ear of seed corn, which are rejected as useless, because they produce invariably sickly plants. The best potatoe soil is one which is cool, moist, and light, such as is afforded by swamps abounding in vegetable alluvion, and well drained. The seed should not be planted so deep, nor the plants earthed so high, as to exclude the salutary influence of air and light; but frequent stirrings of the ground, with the plough or cultivator, are highly beneficial.

3. *Beans* may be cultivated in drills or in hills. They are a valuable crop; and with good care are as profitable as a wheat crop. They leave the soil in good tilth. The China bean, with a red eye, is to be preferred. They ripen early, and are very productive. I cultivated beans the last year, in three different ways, viz. in hills, in drills, and sowed broadcast. I need not describe the first, which is a well known process. I had an acre in drills, which was the best crop I ever saw. My management was this: on an acre of light ground, where the clover had been frozen out the preceding winter, I spread eight loads of long manure, and immediately ploughed and harrowed the ground. Drills or furrows were then made with a light plough, at the distance of two and a half feet and the beans thrown along the furrows about the 25th of May, by the hand, at the rate of at least a bushel on the acre. I then guaged a double mould board plough, which was passed once between the rows, and was followed by a light one horse roller, which flattened the ridges. The crop was twice cleaned of weeds, by the hoe, but not earthed. The product was more than forty-eight bushels, by actual measurement. The beans brought me one dollar the bushel last fall. The third experiment was likewise upon a piece of ground where the clover had been killed. It was ploughed about the first of June, the seed sown like peas, upon the first furrow, and harrowed in. The drought kept them back, but about 65 rods of ground, on which the experiment was made, gave a product of twelve and a half bushels. the crop was too ripe when it was harvested, and as it was cut with a scythe, I estimated that at about two and a half bushels were left upon the ground. No labour was bestowed upon them from the time they were sown till they were harvested.

4 and 5. *Peas and Oats*, are both a pretty sure crop upon a sod. The ground should be ploughed in the fall, and the seed harrowed in as early as possible. A *neat* way of putting in either of these crops is, where stones and roots do not interfere, to turn the furrow slice six inches broad, and six deep, and lay it in an angle of 45 degrees upon the preceding slice. A field thus ploughed, presents a continuity of ridges five inches high, and six inches slope, each way. Sow the oats or peas—the seed falls naturally full into the cavities between the ridges—then harrow with a light seed harrow, across the furrows. The inequalities are thus reduced, the grass upon the edge of the furrow slice perfectly smothered, the seed covered with fine earth, and it comes up with the regularity of a drilled crop. The Trustees of the Massachusetts Agricultural Society, recommend oats as the best crop upon an inverted sward, and as the first of a six years' rotation; and they recommend that it be cut in the milk for fodder. An acre which would yield 30 bushels, might, if cut in the milk, give two to three tons of fodder. In this way, they are unquestionably the most profitable; and when intended to be cut green, five or six bushels should be sown on an acre.

As a general rule, peas and oats constitute the best fallow crop, upon cold stiff soils, particularly if the ground is not manured. Upon loams and sands, beans, and, with manure, maize and potatoes, are preferable as fallow crops.

[*American Farmer.*

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 1824.

FARMER'S CALENDAR.

FLAX. It is or soon will be the proper time to pull your flax. Perhaps in some places within the sphere of the circulation of our paper flax is already pulled, while, in others it is not yet sufficiently ripened. But as we can not adopt any one article to all places, circumstances, situations and capacities, some persons may find it convenient not to pay much attention to this article, at least till the next season for gathering flax. But, though our directions may be "laid by on the shelf" we hope they may not prove useless, (especially, to those who keep files of the New England Farmer;) even to those who have no *immediate* occasion to follow our prescriptions.

Flax, which it is intended to prepare by water-rotting should be pulled as soon as the blossoms have generally fallen off. Some think that the harl is stronger at this time than it is afterwards, as none of the oily particles have yet passed into the seed. It is undoubtedly better for the soil that it be pulled at this time, than when the seed is ripe, as the longer it stands to ripen the more oily particles it will draw from the earth. In pulling flax, care should be taken not to mix long and short together in the same hands, but to keep all of the same length together by itself.

As soon as your flax is pulled and tied up in hands, it should be put into the water without delay. A pond is preferable to running water, both as it is warmer, and not so apt to deprive the flax of its oily and glutinous substance. In four or five days, according to the warmth of the water, it will be time to take it out. But that the true time may not be missed, it must be carefully watched, and trials made by drying and breaking a little of it, that so the harl may not get too much weakened.

After it is taken out, and has lain dripping a few hours, it must be spread on a grassy spot, and dried. If it should happen to be not watered enough, the want may be made up by letting it lie in the dews for a few nights; and if a gentle rain happen to fall on it, it will be the whiter and cleaner.

The flax that goes to seed should not stand till it appears quite brown, nor till the seed be quite ripe. It is not necessary on account of the seed, because it will ripen after pulling. When the leaves are falling from the stalks and the stalks begin to have a bright yellow colour, the bolls just beginning to have a brownish cast is the right time for pulling.

The rind is to be loosened from the stalk by spreading it on the grass to receive the nightly dews. When it is done enough, the rind will appear separated from the stalk at the slender branching parts near the top ends. When it is almost done enough it should be turned over once or twice.

It is, we believe, the usual practice, to dry the flax, by spreading it in the field immediately after pulling and not to house it till some time in September; and then to beat out the seed and spread the flax for rotting. But a writer in the Domestic Encyclopedia, (from which the foregoing observations are in part extracted) objects to this mode of management because it often interferes with fall feeding; and when spread so late in the season it is "necessary that it should lie the longer, the weather being cool. Sometimes it has been overtaken by snows.

"I prefer" says the writer, "the method I have lately gone into, as it saves labour; which is to *spread the flax as soon as it is pulled.* I do it on a spot where the grass is not very short, which prevents sun burning. As the weather is hot it will be done in about ten days or a fortnight. I then bundle and beat the seed off, and lay it up in a dry place till winter." This mode of managing flax, has not, we believe, been adopted by New England farmers, and we do not pretend to decide whether it would be expedient. We should hesitate to adopt it when the saving of the seed is an object: as we should be apprehensive lest the seed should germinate, or spoil, while the flax is rotting. We, therefore, merely submit the subject for consideration.

TAKE CARE OF YOUR FRESH MEAT. Dr. Cooper, in the last edition of Willich's Domestic Encyclopedia says, "Meat can be preserved fresh in hot weather. 1. By covering it with fresh charcoal powder in a cool cellar. 2. By covering it with molasses. 3. By keeping it in a vessel wherein carbonic acid gas has excluded the common air. 4. By folding it in a cloth dipt in vinegar wherein pepper has been infused. 5. By wiping it dry, and enveloping it in melted suet" [or tallow]. A good mode as any, perhaps, may be to let it down in a pretty deep well nearly to a level of the surface of the water, in which situation it will keep some days longer than it would above ground. In some countries meat is preserved by hanging it high in the air, suspended near the top of a tall tree, or a tower, &c. above the ordinary flight of insects. Vessels at anchor, might, no doubt preserve meat fresh for a considerable time by running it up to the top of a mast. But we are disposed *to guess* that in most cases, the best possible mode of effecting this object would be to wrap it in stout brown paper, or coarse and loosely woven cloth, and put it down, embedded in charcoal, broken into small pieces but not reduced to powder. See N. E. Farmer, vol. i. page 275.

FOREIGN.

A Convention was concluded between the United States and Russia on the 17th April last, Mr. Middleton on the part of the United States, and Count Nesselrode and Mr. Politica on the part of Russia. The convention consists of six articles, in which all the

points in dispute between the two governments are adjusted in a manner most honourable and advantageous to this country.

The Ex-Emperor Iturbide.—Strict orders have been issued in Mexico for the punishment of Iturbide as a traitor, should he land in the Republic.

The Pacha of Egypt, certainly the most enterprising Mussulman alive, is making great efforts to encourage manufactures, and is holding forth every inducement to artists and mechanics, and has gone so far as offering 6000 francs per annum to printers of calicoes. Several have therefore left Lyons to embark at Marseilles. Unless Mehemed Ali Pacha, falls a victim to the policy of the Ottomites, he will perfect some splendid schemes of improvement. His canal to the Isthmus of Suez, is nearly completed, and he soon will open a direct and profitable trade to India through the Red Sea. He is immensely rich, and only wants one or two of our fine steam vessels to complete his enterprising plans. [*Nat. Advocate.*

Latest from Europe.—The ship Topaz, Capt. Callender, arrived at this port from Liverpool, on the 11th inst. and brought London papers to the evening of the 12th and Liverpool to the 13th of July. By these we learn that the Greeks continue a successful resistance to the Turkish armies, and the commander in chief of the latter had been defeated in an effort to force the passes of the Thermopylæ. It is likewise asserted, that the corps of Constantine Bozzaris, and the troops of the Pacha of Scutari had been engaged, and the Turks defeated. In various quarters the Greek cause appears to predominate, but no very decisive engagements are mentioned.

Spain.—Madrid letters of June 26, state that the Government had received a note from the French Ambassador, against the conduct observed towards the Constitutionalists, that in consequence of it orders had been given at Bilboa and elsewhere to put a decree of amnesty in execution. In Arragon the populace of several towns resisted this order, burned the decree, and could only be quelled by a French battalion.

London.—It should seem by an article of the 6th of July that the British government had in view a military expedition, and its destination is conjectured to be Portugal.

Balloon Ascent.—Mr. Rossiter, one of Mr. Harris' Committee, and uncle of his widow, has made an ascent in the same balloon which had proved fatal to Mr. Harris, for the benefit of his widow and family. He landed without any difficulty, and without the balloon's sustaining the slightest injury.

DOMESTIC.

Savannah, July 27.—The long continued dry weather which we have experienced, will have the most injurious effects upon the crops in this part of the country. We have received a letter from May river, S. C. which states that the want of rain for the last eight weeks "has almost entirely destroyed the corn crop—the cotton crop is materially injured, and the prospect of provisions for the ensuing year is distressing indeed." We have learned from other sources that the rice in the low lands is perishing for the want of wat r. The river is lower than it has been known for many years."

The Commissioners of the Navy Board are at present absent on a tour of inspection of the Eastern Navy Yards.

New kind of Wheat.—A new kind of Wheat has lately been brought from Arabia, called the Heshbon Wheat.—The ears are twice as large as those of the common kinds of wheat. The number of grains in one ear is eighty-four, and the length of the stalk, five feet one inch. [*Cincinnati Gazette.*

Mr. Rush, the American Minister at the Court of St. James, has acknowledged the receipt of £6,600 sterling (through Messrs. Baring & Co.) from the committee in New-York appointed to receive contributions for the relief of the virtuous and patriotic Greeks. The Greek deputation in London has very feelingly noticed the liberality of the American contributors, and say that the Government of Greece will hasten to express its sincere gratitude for such a benevolent deed, which it must necessarily inspire in the hearts of the Greeks.—*Con. Herald.*

Last week an attempt was made to poison the family of Mr. W. Sanbury, in Winchester, Va. by arsenic, mixed in the butter eaten at the table. Fortunately the quantity employed was so great, as to produce an immediate discharge from the stomach, and save the lives of the persons taking it. Suspicions light on a black wench, as the author of the diabolical offence. [*N. Y. Statesman.*

At a monthly meeting of the New-York Horticultural Society, July 29, a member presented a catalogue of fruit-trees, part of which he brought from Europe in the Spring,—the remainder are expected in the fall. Many of the varieties are new. They consist of

13	varieties	of Almonds
18	do	Apricots
53	do	Cherries
68	do	Plums
126	do	Apples
196	do	Pears
3	do	Quinces
3	do	Medlars
7	do	Nuts
8	do	Filberts
49	do	Peaches
164	do	Grapes
7	do	Barbaries
2	do	Cornel Tree
4	do	Chesnut Tree
10	do	Figs
16	do	Raspberries
24	do	Currants and Gooseberries
13	do	Strawberries.

Total 784 varieties.

Thomas Crooker mowed IN ONE MINUTE, in the field of Thaddeus Chapin, Esq. last week, *seven hundred and fifty-two square feet* of grass: four other men, about 550 feet each; averaging 47 clips of grass, and being 94 movements of the Scythe in 60 seconds. Whoever will beat the above, in Ontario, shall receive a premium.—*Ontario, N. Y. Repos.*

The Legislature of New-York adjourned on the 6th inst. after refusing to pass what is denominated the Electoral Bill, which gave the right of choosing Electors of President and Vice President of the United States to the people. In consequence of this decision the choice will devolve on the Legislature at their session in November next.

Erratum.—In the article headed "On raising Wheat," communicated by Mr. A. Butterfield, and published in the last No. of the New England Farmer, page 12, column 2, the following occurs, "he broke up one half acre," &c. It should have been *one and an half acre, &c.*

☞ HOW TO SAVE FIFTY CENTS.

Our subscribers are respectfully and respectively reminded that by paying for the current volume of the New England Farmer within 60 days from the 1st inst. they may obtain the volume for $2 50 instead of $3 00, which is the price unless the money is paid in advance. Those who are indebted for either of the preceding volumes, it is hoped will be so good as to settle their accounts, without putting us to the necessity of soliciting a favour of that kind. What are vulgarly called *dunning* paragraphs in newspapers have such an ungenteel appearance, that we cannot but hope that our good friends and respectable patrons, by prompt payments, will relieve us from the necessity of writing any thing of that description.

NEW ENGLAND MUSEUM.

76, *COURT STREET, BOSTON,*

CONTAINING much more numerous Collections and greater variety of entertainments than any other Establishment in America, continues steadily to increase, and is open for the reception of visiters

EVERY DAY AND EVENING.

It will be constantly in the best possible condition, and every exertion made to render the visits of its patrons agreeable.

This Establishment now contains FIVE former Museums united in ONE, together with very great and numerous additions (the whole receipts being faithfully laid out to increase it.)

JUST ADDED,

The celebrated Race Horse Eclipse,

A beautiful Cosmoramic View of London,

A large and beautiful live Rattlesnake,

The Arabian Bottle, made of the stomach of a Camel—holds about a barrel—used to carry water across the desert.

The Invalid's Chair—very ingenious—invented by Professor Peck.

A very large and elegant Sword Fish, upwards of 14 feet long, with a sword 4 1-2 feet long.

☞ The Museum is well lighted, and a Band of Music performs every evening. Admittance 25 cents.

June 5.

PRICES OF COUNTRY PRODUCE, &c.

[Revised and corrected every Friday.]

		FROM D. C.	TO D. C.
APPLES, good, to best,	bbl.		
ASHES, pot, 1st sort,	ton.	120	
pearl do.		120 50	
BEANS, white,	bush	80	1 00
BEEF, mess, 200 lbs.	bbl.	10	11
cargo, No 1,		8	8 50
" No 2,		6 75	7
BUTTER, inspect. No. 1. new,	lb.	11	12
CHEESE, new milk,		7	9
skimed milk,		3	4
FLAX		8	9
FLAX SEED	bush	82	84
FLOUR, Baltimore, Howard St	bbl.	6 75	
Genessee,		6	
Rye, best,		2 62	2 75
GRAIN, Rye	bush	53	55
Corn		40	52
Barley			
Oats		30	33
HOGS' LARD, 1st sort	lb.	11	12
HOPS, No 1, Inspection of		38	40
LIME, 1823	cask	85	1 00
OIL, Linseed, Phil. and Northern	gal.	70	75
PLAISTER PARIS	ton.	3	
PORK, Bone Middlings	bbl.	16 00	17
navy, mess,		13	13 50
Cargo, No 1,		12 50	13
SEEDS, Herd's Grass, 1823,	bush	1 75	
Clover		5	7
WOOL, Merino, full blood, wash		60	70
do do unwashed		40	45
do 3-4 washed		45	50
do 1-2 do		37	42
Native do		25	30
Pulled, Lamb's, 1st sort		48	52
do Spinning, 1st sort		35	40
PROVISION MARKET.			
BEEF, best pieces	lb.	8	10
PORK, fresh, best pieces,		8	10
" whole		6	
VEAL,		4	10
MUTTON,		3	12
POULTRY,		10	20
BUTTER, keg & tub, new,		12	15
lump,		16	20
EGGS,		13	16
MEAL, Rye, retail,	bush	62	65
Indian, do.		58	60
POTATOES, new,		75	1 00
CIDER, liquor, new	bbl.	2 50	3 50
HAY, according to quality,	ton.	16 00	20 00

From N. York Statesman.

LA FAYETTE.

Hail, patriot, statesman, hero, sage!
Hail, freedom's friend! hail, Gallia's son—
Whose laurels greener grow in age,
Plucked by the side of WASHINGTON!
Hail, champion in a holy cause,
When hostile bands our shores beset;
Whose valor bade the oppressor pause—
Hail, hoary warrior—LA FAYETTE!

Forever welcome to the shore,
A youthful chief, thy footsteps pressed;
A dauntless, wand and peril bore,
Till "VENI, VICI,"* decked thy crest!
Forever welcome, *great and good*!
Till freedom's sun on earth shall set,
The still small voice of gratitude
Shall bless the name of—LA FAYETTE.

What monarch of despotic power,
Who fain would crush the free-born brave;
Whose glory gilds a tottering tower,
Himself a subject and a slave;
Would not to view a nation's eyes
With joyous drops unbidden wet,
The pageantry of pride despise,
And grasp the hand of—LA FAYETTE.

Whene'er the lips of youth inquire
The path to virtue, honor, fame—
To glory's temple proud aspire,
While warmly glows the ardent flame;
The voice of age shall fearless tell
What perils oft its path beset,
And prompt them onward by the spell
That urged the soul of—LA FAYETTE.

And when the shades of death shall close
Forever round thy hallowed head,
We'll seek the place of thy repose,
By filial love and duty led;
And *hearts* that beat in bosoms free,
(Gems by unerring wisdom set,)
The living monument shall be
Of Freedom's champion—LA FAYETTE.

BOSTON BARD.

* *I came and conquered.*

Miscellany.

Human Lungs.—The *structure and function of the human lungs* has long been a chief study of Dr. Magendie, of Paris, and by very numerous dissections of this organ, in its ordinary, and also in its phthisically diseased state, he has ascertained, that the tissues or cellular coats of the lungs are almost entirely composed of the minute branchings of blood-vessels, of the pulmonary arteries and veins, anastomising or connecting with each other; that the lungs diminish in number, but increase in size with considerable regularity, from childhood to old age, the increased size being greatest, where a cough has attended the individual; that on the whole, aged people consume much less oxygen. and consequently have less animal heat, and are less able to resist cold, than the young.

Dr. Magendie has found, that the beginning of phthisis, or consumption, is owing to the small parieties of the pulmonary blood-vessels secreting a greyish yellow matter, in one or more of the cells of the lungs;—this, in some cases, is moveable, and the patient coughs it up, and recovers; but much too frequently it increases, adheres to the small vessels, gradually obliterates them, and the whole lobe at length becomes tuberculous, or formed of this greyish yellow matter. Considering thus the commencement of consumption as only an alteration in the habitual secretions of the vascular tissue of the lungs, Dr. M. employs sedatives, and particularly the hydro-cyanic acid, in the two first stages of the disease, with the happiest effect.

[*Bos. Med. Intell.*

Snakes.—Professor Luigi Metoxn, of Rome, has published an account of some singular experiments made by him on snakes. Among others he endeavours to ascertain the truth of the assertions of the ancients respecting the predilection of snakes for music and dancing. In the month of July, 1822, about noon, he put into a large box a number of different kinds of snakes, all quite lively, with the exception of some vipers, which were inclosed in a separate box. As soon as they heard the harmonious tones of an organ, all the venomous serpents became agitated in an extraordinary manner; they attached themselves to the sides of the box, and made every effort to escape. The *elaphis* and the *Esculapii* turned towards the instrument. The vipers for their part exhibited no symptoms of sensibility. This experiment has been frequently repeated, and always with the same results.

Vermont outdone by New Hampshire.—Last week we copied a paragraph which mentioned, that Col. Levi Phinney, of Shrewsbury, Vt. had sheared from a four year old native wether, *eleven pounds and one ounce of wool.* This we thought, at that time, to be an extraordinary fleece; but we have since been informed, that Joseph Weeks, Esq. of Greenland, (adjoining this town) sheared from a four year old native buck, on the 24th of May last, *eleven pounds and four ounces of wool*, being *three ounces* more than the famous Shrewsbury wether!—*N. H. Gaz.*

Reproof of Sleepers.—It is related of Lassenius, chaplain to the Danish court, that perceiving the greater part of his audience to be asleep while he was preaching, he suddenly stopped, pulled a shuttle-cock from his pocket and began to play with it in the pulpit. In a short time every body was lively, and looking to the pulpit with the greatest astonishment. He resumed his discourse, saying "when I announce to you sacred and important things, you are not ashamed to go to sleep, but when I play the fool you are all eye, and all ear."

We must remind people, that now is the time for green corn, green apples, cucumbers, hot days, damp evenings, and sick children. A little attention in season may save pain, and even life; to say nothing of the anxiety of parents and expense of medicine, advice, and professional attendance.—*Con. Mirror.*

Eleven men nearly lost their lives in Waterloo, N. Y. on the 12th ult. in consequence of drinking butter milk, contained in an earthen vessel. It is supposed the acidity of the liquid decomposed and extracted the poisonous quality of the glazing. A similar instance occurred some time since at the eastward, which proved fatal. People cannot be too careful in making use of glazed earthen ware.—*Nothern Spectator.*

William Penn and Thomas Story travelling together in Virginia, were caught by a shower of rain and unceremoniously sheltered themselves from it in a tobacco-house; the owner of which happening to be within it, accosted them with "you have a great deal of impudence to trespass on my premises—you enter without leave—do you know who I am?" To which was answered, no. "Why then I would have you to know I am a justice of the peace;" to which Thomas Story replied, "*my friend here makes such things as thee—he is the Governor of Pennsylvania.*" The great man quickly abated his haughtiness.

A grandee of Spain handing some refreshments to a circle af ladies, observed one with a most brilliant ring, and was rude enough to say in her hearing, "I should prefer the ring to the hand." "And I, (said the lady, looking steadfastly at the glittering order suspended from the don's neck) should prefer the *collar* to the *beast.*"

A surveyor of taxes, named Hyde, was examining a house, by the side of which was a tan pit, and while disputing with the tenant about the number of windows it contained, he most unfortunately slipped into the pit. "For God's sake, cried he, help me." "Nay," said the proprietor, "I dare take nothing from thence without the consent of the exciseman; and it would be a pity to pull out a Hyde before it is well tanned."

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THE subscriber offers for sale in small lots to actual settlers, or in larger tracts to others, the following lands in the State of Pennsylvania, belonging to the estate of the late Wm. Bingham, viz: *two hundred and fifty thousand acres* in the counties of Bradford and Tioga, at from *three dollars*, to *two dollars fifty cents* per acre, according to situation; and *five hundred thousand acres* in the counties of Potter, McKean, Venango, Armstrong, Jefferson and Lycoming, at *two dollars* per acre. The terms are ten years for payments, three of them without interest. The land is generally of a good quality, well watered, intersected by important roads, and in a healthy situation. For further particulars application may be made to agents in the different counties, or to

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